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ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of street children is a growing concern in South Africa. The Human Sciences Research Council and the South African Department of Health and Population Development organized a networking conference in November 1993 as a step toward developing, on a partnership basis, guidelines for policy and strategies in the best interests of street children. Experts on various aspects of the problem presented short papers that became the basis of the small group discussions that were the core of the conference proceedings. This document contains summaries of the six conference papers, the feedback from the different groups, and the resolutions of the working conference. Working groups discussed the following topics: (1) the needs and rights of street children; (2) coordination of services; (3) policy guidelines and existing legislation; (4) public and private partnerships for street children; (5) outreach programs and the role of the outreach worker; (6) assessment of street children; (7) preparing street children for employment through education and training; (8) aftercare; and (9) community awareness and participation, including prevention strategies. Conference participants agreed that a multifaceted approach to the problems of street children is required. An appendix provides a directory of organizations and individuals involved with street children. (Contains 1 diagram.) (SLD)

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Street Children Quo Vadis?

Editor: Evanthe Schurink

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Street Children Quo Vadis?

Summary and resolutions of a working conference
on the management of street children in the
South African context

Street Children Quo Vadis?

Summary and resolutions of a working conference on the management of street children in the South African context

Editor
Evanthe Schurink

Pretoria
Human Sciences Research Council
1994

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This work is dedicated to the silent majority of street children who found a voice through the powerful true-to-life performance by the Street Child Rap Group:

Johannes Lebese
Edwin Mogashwa
Tebogo Seopa
Abel Matjehe
Patrick Mahlahe
Velly Baloyi
Aubrey Nyapodi
Thabo Makwe
Walter Madondo
Eugene Malepye

Life Story of a street child

I am a boy of sixteen years old and I live in Mamelodi Street-wise. I was just living at home in Soshanguve. I ran away from home because of some problems at home. I found boys in Pretoria who were sleeping in streets. I became their friend. They taught me how to zola (to make money). I was sleeping on streets. While time was running out I started to sleep in the Elm's church in Jeppe Street. Sometimes I did go to the soup kitchen. I found a Mr. Robinson Sathekge and others who were working there. They told me about school and the importance of school. I did like school because I wasted my first chance at home so I would like to have a second chance.

In the 12th of March the church was burned but I was not in the church. I was sleeping there every night. But that day I thought that I dont feel to sleep in the church.

After some few days I was taken to Wild Mission Centre. From Wild Mission Centre I was sended to Camp Jumbo from Camp Jumbo in Mamelodi Street-wise. For now I am in Mamelodi Street-wise and I am very proud to live here. I am very happy to have my second chance.

Acknowledgements

Sincere appreciation is expressed to the following persons for their participation:

- The Street-Wise group who, by participating in the *Street Children Rap*, gave conference participants some glimpse of street life.
- Street children who, through their exhibition of drawings and stories, shared their life experiences with the conference participants.
- Dr Eddy Harvey for chairing the working conference.
- The speakers for their inspiring papers and presentations.
- The facilitators for guiding the group discussions.
- The discussion groups for their participation and valuable inputs.
- The conference participants who were willing to share their expertise and to come together in an united effort to address the plight of South African street children.
- Mrs Babsie van der Nest for bringing joy with her lovely flower arrangement.
- Mrs Magriet Doorewaard for administrative assistance during the planning of the working conference.
- Mrs Charmaine Smit and her team for the administrative services so expertly rendered both during the planning and the presentation of the working conference.
- Prof. L. Schlemmer for his quaint summary of the working conference proceedings.
- Mrs Claudia Davidson and her team at the HSRC Publishers for a professional publishing service.

Mrs Ina Stahmer for language editing and Mrs Martie Boesenberg for technical editing of the manuscript, and Mrs Annemarie Booyens for the preparation of the document for publication.

EVANTHE SCHURINK
December 1994

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Network Directory of organisations and individuals involved with and interested in the street child phenomenon

Ekserp

In Suid-Afrika het die verskynsel van straatkinders 'n saak van openbare belang geword. Die formulering van enige beleid of strategie vir straatkinders behoort, in 'n poging om 'n outoritêre benadering te vermy, gerig te word deur omvattende beraadslaging met diegene wat op verskillende vlakke by straatkinders betrokke is (staatsdepartemente, nie-regeringsorganisasies en gemeenskapsgebaseerde organisasies). Bewus van hierdie feit het die RGN en die welsynsafdeling van die Departement van Gesondheid en Bevolkingsontwikkeling besluit om saam 'n eendaagse netwerkkonferensie te reël. Die hoofdoel met die konferensie was *om op 'n vennootskapsbasis riglyne te ontwikkel vir 'n beleid en strategie wat in die beste belang van die straatkind sou wees.*

Die konferensie is goed bygewoon deur verteenwoordigende rolspelers wat met straatkinders in die formele sowel as die informele sektor in die Suid-Afrikaanse samelewing te doen het. Onder die afgevaardigdes was verteenwoordigers van die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie Diens, die Durban Stad Polisie, tersaaklike staatsdepartemente, nie-regeringsorganisasies en gemeenskapsgebaseerde organisasies. Die name en adresse van die konferensiedeelnemers en ander belanghebbendes word as 'n byvoegsel aangebied.

Deur middel van hierdie konferensie het die RGN daarin geslaag om 'n *fasiliteringsrol* te speel in die bymekaarbring van belangrike partye (die staat en gemeenskapsdienste) met die oog daarop om die nodige basis te lê vir *beleidsformulering* wat kommunikasie, samewerking en koördinering tussen die belanghebbers by straatkinders sou verbeter.

Deskundiges op die gebied van verskeie aspekte rakende straatkinders het kort lesings aangebied om die deelnemers aan die klein groepbesprekings aan te moedig en te lei. Aangesien die konferensie gerig was op 'n gesamentlike poging om riglyne daar te stel vir 'n nasionale plan van aksie vir straatkinders, het groepbesprekings die kern van die konferensieverrigtinge uitgemaak. Tien klein groepies, wat elk 'n ander onderwerp oor straatkinders bespreek het, is gevorm. Terugvoer in die vorm van konferensiebesluite is deur elk van die besprekingsgroepe verskaf.

Hierdie dokument bevat die opsommings van die lesings, die terugvoer van die verskillende besprekingsgroepe, die besluite van die konferensie as geheel asook die gevolglike aksies. In 'n poging om omvattende beraadslaging ten opsigte van beleidsformulering oor straatkinders in die formele en die informele sektor te bevorder, beplan die RGN en die Departement van Welsyn 'n opvolgkonferensie met die oog daarop om beleid te formuleer en strategie te definieër om straatkinders in die Suid-Afrikaanse konteks te kan hanteer. Bogemelde dokument is 'n uitstekende basis vir beleidsformulering en sal dus gebruik kan word as 'n voorbereidingsdokument vir die opvolgkonferensie.

Abstract

The phenomenon of street children has become an issue of public concern in South Africa. Any policy and strategy formulation aimed at dealing with street children should, in order to avoid a top-down approach, be spear-headed by a process of consultation involving people dealing with street children at different levels (state departments, non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations). Conscious of this fact the HSRC and the welfare section of the Department of Health and Population Development decided to jointly organise a one-day networking conference. The main aim of the conference was *to develop, on a partnership basis, guidelines for a policy and strategy which would be in the best interest of the street child.*

The conference was well attended by representative role players dealing with street children in the formal as well as the informal sector of the South African society. The delegates included representatives from the South African Police Service, the Durban City Police, relevant state departments, NGOs and CBOs. A network directory with the names and addresses of conference participants and other stakeholders is presented as an appendix.

By means of this conference the HSRC succeeded in playing a *facilitating role* in bringing the important parties (the state and community services) together to set the necessary foundation for *policy formulation* that would enhance communication, collaboration and co-ordination between stakeholders involved with street children.

Experts on various aspects concerning street children presented short papers aimed at encouraging and guiding the participants in their small group discussions. Because the conference focused on a joint effort to establish guidelines for a national plan of action for street children, group discussions formed the core of the conference proceedings. Ten small groups, each discussing a different topic concerning street children, were formed. Feedback in the form of conference resolutions was provided by the different groups.

This document contains summaries of the papers, the feedback of the different groups, the resolutions of the working conference as a whole as well as the ensuing action. In an effort to promote the broad process of consultation in policy formulation between role players dealing with street children in the formal as well as the informal sector, the HSRC and the Department of Welfare plan to organise a follow-up working conference aimed at formulating policy and defining strategy to deal with street children in the South African context. The above mentioned document forms an excellent basis for policy formulation and will therefore be used as a preparation document for the follow-up conference.

Introduction

The phenomenon of street children has become an issue of public concern in South Africa. Consequently the welfare components of the Department of Local Government and National Housing and the Department of National Health and Population Development commissioned the HSRC to undertake country-wide research into the nature, the scope and the causes of the street child problem and to develop a model to deal with potential and actual street children.

From the research findings it was clear that:

- a *comprehensive, inclusive strategy* involving all the role players dealing with street children should be developed, implemented and monitored;
- the street child problem needs to be addressed at a *primary level* which involves statutory and community structures and the development of strategies for preventing at-risk children from turning to the streets as a means of livelihood;
- the development of *secondary, pro-active strategies* within communities are necessary to prevent working children and street children who still have regular contact with their homes (i.e. children *on* the street) to make the streets their permanent home (and become children *of* the street);
- programmes suited to the needs of individual street children should be developed at a *tertiary level* and should include contact and outreach strategies, immediate care, intake and assessment, and intervention aimed at reintegrating street children with their communities of origin.

By way of a working conference on 9 November 1993 the HSRC played a *facilitating role* in bringing the important parties (the state and community services) together and *set a foundation for improved communication, collaboration and co-ordination* between them. The main aims of the working conference were therefore to:

- *facilitate networking* between all the parties involved with street children;

- *establish and promote partnership* between state departments and community services (NGOs and CBOs) dealing with street children;
- enable the state, community services and experts to *jointly develop guidelines for policy and a national plan of action* to deal with street children at a primary, secondary and tertiary level.

The working conference was opened by Dr Rolf Stumpf, President of the HSRC. He welcomed the delegates and complimented the welfare components of the Department of Local Government and National Housing and the Department of National Health and Population Development for their initiative in assigning researchers to undertake a comprehensive investigation into the lives of street children. The then Deputy Minister of Welfare, Mr G.M.E. Carelse, presented a message which emphasized the importance of community involvement and community responsibility and participation, co-ordination between community services and the state, as well as the development of policy in order to address the street child problem more effectively. In his summary Prof. L. Schlemmer, Vice President: Research, stressed the importance of prevention as well as family and community reconstruction.

The one-day working conference was well attended by representative role players dealing with children in the formal as well as the informal sector of the South African society. The delegates included representatives from the South African Police Service, the Durban City Police, relevant state departments, NGOs and CBOs. A list of addresses of the delegates who attended the working conference is given in Appendix A.

Because the working conference focused on a joint effort to establish guidelines for a national plan of action for street children, group discussions formed the core of the conference proceedings. Ten small groups, each discussing a different topic concerning street children, were formed. The group facilitators were briefed on the proceedings and were encouraged to allow the group members to speak freely about their topic. Experts on various aspects concerning street children were invited to present short papers that would encourage and guide the participants in their small group discussions.

This document contains summaries of the papers, the feedback of the different groups, as well as the resolutions of this working conference.

Summary of the papers

Aims, methods and main findings of the research into the causes and incidence of the problem of street children in the RSA[1]

Dr Willem Schurink

Human Sciences Research Council

1 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH

To investigate the nature, the scope and the causes of the problem of street children;

To describe the nature and effectiveness of treatment programmes that aimed at teaching street children a normal and healthy way of life;

To identify factors that may have a negative effect on treatment and rehabilitation;

To determine a structure within which treatment programmes can be carried out;

To determine the public's perceptions of and attitudes towards street children.

In order to meet the research aims a multimethod design was opted for during the operationalization phase of the study. More specifically, both qualitative and quantitative methods were utilized in the execution of the research. A comprehensive literature review of local as well as overseas studies on street children and related phenomena (e.g. runaways) was undertaken. Three types of recorded data sources were used, namely the mass media (such as newspaper reports), official documents (such as statistics and files on street children), and private documents (such as child drawings and essays).

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1 This paper is based on the report *Street children: A working document* (Schurink *et al.* 1993).

Three types of surveys aimed at determining the incidence, the scope and the distribution of the public's perceptions of and attitudes towards the problem of street children were employed. A *telephone survey* was undertaken amongst *African* and *white* residents living in *metropolitan areas* (Johannesburg, the East Rand, the West Rand, Pretoria, the Vaal Triangle, the Cape Peninsula, Port Elizabeth and Durban). Interviews were conducted with 424 Africans and 421 whites, aged 18 years and older. Data on *the perceptions and views of people involved with street children* were obtained from *37 individuals* and *15 organizations* in South Africa.

Two types of unstructured interviews were used to obtain data on the public's perceptions of the street child phenomenon. Firstly, *informational conversations* or *in-depth interviews* were conducted with street children, their family members and persons attached to service-rendering organizations. Secondly, *focus group interviews* were conducted with some of these groups. Approximately *100* interviews as well as several focus group discussions were conducted with *street children* in all the major urban centres of South Africa. The cities included in the study were Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Johannesburg, Bloemfontein and Pretoria.

Interviews with *researchers, different staff members of street child projects, business people* and *volunteers involved with street children* were held at schools of industry, places of safety, children's homes, shelters and business premises in Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Pretoria, Kinross, Johannesburg and Durban.

Finally, participant observation was employed in the research. While extremely difficult, some of the researchers succeeded in locating and establishing contact with street children and gained invaluable first-hand information about the meanings that street children and other significant people attached to their life worlds. Time was spent with street children at shelters and on the street in Cape Town, Pretoria and Johannesburg.

2 THE MAIN FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

- The phenomenon of street children has been in existence throughout the world for a very long time. However, in South Africa it is regarded as a relatively recent phenomenon.

- The reasons why children take to the streets are complex and manifold. Broadly speaking, a distinction can be drawn between push and pull factors. Poverty, unemployment, overcrowding, child abuse, family disintegration, alcohol abuse by parents, failure at school, the collapse of alternative care facilities and family violence are examples of push factors, while the desire to earn money, to contribute to family income and to roam the streets can be seen as pull factors.

- The children involved in the investigation were all subject to a process before they considered themselves street children. Two interdependent phases are distinguished: the newcomer street child and the "streetwise" street child. It appears that the decision to bid the parental home farewell and to make the streets their new home is made only when there are problematic child-parent relations, domestic circumstances are untenable for the children, the street is seen as an opportunity for a better life, and the children are able to handle practical problems such as transport.

- Although it is impossible to determine the precise number of street children in any country, it is estimated that there are currently approximately 10 000 street children in South Africa.

- Street children typically have to contend with insufficient food, clothes and shelter, and they have no access to basic services such as medical care and literacy training. Their ages range from seven to 16 years, the vast majority are boys, and the children tend to come from poor, overcrowded homes where they are ill-treated or where their basic needs are not met. They survive by doing odd jobs (e.g. helping motorists to park their cars, washing cars, selling fruit and vegetables, begging, prostituting themselves, abusing and selling drugs, and committing other minor and more serious crimes). Moreover, they are vulnerable to social, sexual and psychological abuse on the streets.

- Different groups of people, such as the general public, policy makers, those concerned about the street child phenomenon and the street children themselves, have different perceptions about this phenomenon. However, broadly speaking, street children are seen as a problem

that needs to be addressed, and that this is exclusively the responsibility of the welfare or criminal justice system.

- Street children have learnt to provide for themselves and survive against all the hardships of street life. Having missed out on the fun of being children, they have developed a sense of independence and can therefore not be dealt with as ordinary children in need of care.
- Conventional approaches (i.e. simply regarding street children as children in need of care) and existing legislation and policy are inadequate for addressing the street child problem effectively. The lack of a clear definition of the concept "street child" in policy documents can also lead to, amongst others, the exploitation of street children by employers and law enforcers.
- Street children programmes are beset with problems. These include a lack of money and suitable accommodation, a shortage of trained personnel and deficient legislation that does not make provision for the registration of shelters for street children and thus for the unconventional handling of street children.
- The most serious problem is the lack of co-ordination between the various programmes and between these programmes and the authorities.
- The research indicated that programmes aimed at street children will only be effective when the whole community concerned is prepared to accept responsibility for the solution of the problem; to give proper protection to the children; to treat them with respect; and to provide the necessary opportunities for the development of the children's potential.
- The South African public regard the street child as a threat to the social order and are consequently in favour of law enforcers keeping street children off the streets by locking them up. This seriously undermines the constructive handling of the street child problem.

Street children: Alternatives for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation

Ms Mihloti Mathye

Department of National Health and Population Development

1 INTRODUCTION

According to Ennew (*New Internationalist*, October 1986:3-4) there are three possible strategies for working with street children, namely containment, cure and prevention. Containment usually takes place in closed institutions where correctional measures are applied. The cure approach involves weaning children away from street life, gradually reintroducing them to education and regular work patterns. This seems to be successful, especially when working on an outreach or street educator basis. Prevention (stopping children from opting for life on the street) is the most difficult and least explored alternative.

2 SOME OF THE FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS WITH REGARD TO STREET CHILDREN

- Apart from failing to meet the needs of street children, conventional child care facilities also contribute to the street child problem since they require prescribed behaviour and self-disclosure in return for service.
- Street children have learnt to provide for themselves and survive against all the hardships of street life. Having missed the fun of being children, they have an advanced sense of independence.
- Street child programmes which have been found to retain and assist street children most effectively are non-government initiatives that have enlisted government co-operation.

Guidelines have been derived from the observations and experiences of people involved with street children over varying periods of time. There are quite a number of guidelines, but those referred to most often are the following:

- Programmes for street children should be founded on respect for the children, on the development of their self-esteem and on faith in their potential.
- Street children need a flexible and less restrictive lifestyle.
- Because some street children respond well to direct and authoritarian approaches and others resent this, there should be a variety of programmes.
- Because street children generally come from displaced or disorganized families, every effort should be made to provide good role models during intervention.
- Intervention should not only benefit the child as an individual, but also ensure at community level, and where feasible, family reunification and appropriate rehabilitation.The skills that street children have should be acknowledged and developed so that they not only survive but continue to take control of their lives in a constructive way.

3 ALTERNATIVE STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH STREET CHILDREN

In South Africa efforts have only been made since the 1980s to help street children in a less formal way. Tremendous strides have now been made in terms of services available to street children, public awareness of the phenomenon (through the media), and research. Street children have been sent to places of safety and schools of industry, and have been helped in different ways through a variety of non-government initiatives such as shelters, skills training and education programmes. These initiatives have encountered different problems, mostly due to the nature of the street child phenomenon and legislation with regard to street children.

Programmes for street children can be divided into micro and macro level programmes. Macro programmes focus on the community at large and are concerned with issues such as community awareness about and attitude towards street children. These programmes also focus on community education and community participation in street child projects. On the other hand, micro programmes attempt to diagnose and treat street children on an individual basis. For success to be

achieved, micro and macro level programmes need to be carried out simultaneously and the programmes designed for street children should consider the children's variety of personalities, their individual experiences, other differences between the children, adults who are predisposed to give help and society's attitudes toward the children.

The following types of micro programmes can be identified:

- **Contact and outreach programmes**

A number of non-governmental organizations that offer services to street children in South Africa have an outreach programme where a street worker goes out to those places frequented by street children and tries to become acquainted with them.

- **Immediate care programmes**

The basic needs of street children are food, clothing and a safe shelter, and this is where an ideal programme should start. Furthermore, many street children seem to need medical attention for septic wounds, cuts, flu, infections, or serious illnesses such as epilepsy and heart defects. In offering immediate care a programme needs to have sanitary facilities and a medical kit or access to a medical facility. The children should have someone to talk to if they have such a need, and some form of recreation would help to provide a relaxed atmosphere.

- **Intake and assessment programmes**

In order for decisions to be made by the children and the people helping them, certain information is necessary. Although most children are hardly stable during the first few days in a programme, the people helping them should try and observe their social and interpersonal functioning in order to know what kind of behaviour to expect from them and how to deal with it. Issues to be addressed include physical problems, family background, behavioural and personal problems, social skills and cognitive ability.

- **Intervention programmes**

A need was identified in the De Meyer Report of July 1982 for new services and the adaptation/modification of existing services to best serve the interests of street children. There would be no need to establish new structures if existing initiatives to help street children could be given due recognition and support by the government.

Types of macro programmes:

- **Prevention programmes**

So far there have been no known national attempts at prevention. Prevention at local level also seems to have been unsuccessful overall, mainly because of the complex roles that the government, the community, the family and the individual play.

- **Community awareness and participation programmes**

One way of addressing the street child problem is contact with the communities of origin, and working with them towards prevention through, for instance, workshops, recreation projects, and work with the youth. All role players (e.g. family, teachers, churches, community developers, social workers) should be aware of the phenomenon as well as of their moral and social responsibilities towards street children.

- **Legislation and policy**

An ideal strategy for the treatment and rehabilitation of street children has to start with legislation that recognizes private/voluntary initiative and the creation/promotion of facilities that cater for the needs of street children.

Refocusing the links fo street children with their communities or origin

Points compiled by Jill Swart-Kruger & Pat Sebobe

Street-Wise

1 INTRODUCTION

At a national workshop of Street-Wise employees and supporters in 1989 a mission statement was formulated which concisely expressed the aims and objectives of Street-Wise:

> *Street-Wise exists to work with street children to empower and protect them, and to reintroduce them into the community as contributing individuals.*

2 REINTRODUCTION TO THE COMMUNITY

Since its inception, the ultimate aim of Street-Wise has been to reintegrate street children with community life. This does not mean that children are forcibly repatriated. The emphasis is rather on strengthening fragile family links or re-establishing support networks.

No organization or institution can ever hope to replicate the wealth of community networks which sustain the individual. Although in the case of street children, community support networks have fallen away or have been deficient in the children's time of need it should not be presumed that the only alternative for such children is long-term institutionalization. After all, it is exceptionally difficult for staff members to have a constant, caring commitment towards individual children in institutions; this is more feasible within a child's community of origin.

It is important to remember the words of Dr Mia Pringle, former director of the British National Children's Bureau, in her book *The Needs of Children* (1975):

> *The essential driving force of the will to learn has its roots in the quality of relationships available to the child right from the beginning of life. ... Such love is extremely difficult to replace and hence it makes the child vulnerable when it is lost to him, temporarily or permanently ... In most cases, the best that (institutional)*

... care can offer is impartiality to be fair to every child in its care. But a developing personality needs more than that ...

Many children living on the streets come from poor families who cannot afford the basic necessities of life. Street-Wise has found that family counselling together with regular financial aid is effective in bringing families together again in many such cases. It is also far less costly than keeping children in shelters and less time-consuming and difficult than trying to find foster parents for them.

When children are taken into long-term care outside their communities of origin, these communities become blind to their personal problems and to those of their families. When the children are out of sight their problems and those of their families are out of mind. Consequently the issues that push children from their midst out onto the streets are not addressed.

In this way it was possible for a smartly dressed lady from Dube in Soweto to condemn the Dube Street-Wise house at an international conference on disadvantaged children. At the time it was impossible to reunite these children with their families. They had therefore to be housed close enough to their homes to be able to visit their family members. The aforementioned lady rejected the children as thugs, and therefore questioned their presence in an up-market area, although she had never met any of them personally and refused more than one invitation to do so.

This sort of response is very depressing for those who work with street children. We should however stop being so understanding of personal prejudice of this nature and start insisting that people stop shrugging off their community responsibilities, and especially so when these concern local children. This was the approach of Mrs Albertina Sisulu who was called in by a Soweto Street-Wise co-ordinator, Mrs Minah Motaung, to defuse community hostility about the presence of the children.

Children who are placed in institutions far from their communities of origin are unable to frequently visit their families or other relatives. Trying to mend family links is in itself a mammoth task, but where communication and family counselling are severely hampered by long distances between the institution and the child's family, reunification becomes virtually impossible.

3 LOCAL ENTERPRISE

Many people are concerned about children living on the streets and wish to help them. Wherever we go we find caring people setting up projects for street children making the same mistakes others have made, experiencing the same frustration, and gradually coming to realize their shortcomings, but not knowing where to find the resources to address them. Work with street children is very fragmented in South Africa and until a national policy on street children is formulated and proper guidelines are set up for establishing and assessing projects, it will proceed on an ad hoc basis, often to the detriment of the children.

For many years there has been tension between NGOs and local and national government with regard to the care of street children. Consequently NGOs have been afraid to expose their frailty to others. While presenting a tidy front to outsiders, many programmes have been riddled with internal problems.

Street-Wise has had its fair share of problems, both with regard to programme design and finance. However, Street-Wise strongly emphasizes ongoing performance assessment, and in recent years has come to believe that a community-based approach is imperative with street children. Therefore, although it still runs shelters and has more permanent homes, street children will only be taken into these if it is impossible to place them in their own homes or other homes in their communities of origin, where family members will be easily accessible to them. The Mabopane project, 40 km from the centre of Pretoria, is an example of the community-based approach of Street-Wise. This project is run by a committee comprising members of the local community and of Pretoria Street-Wise. It caters specifically for street children who come from communities in and around Mabopane. When it is well established, and the support of the local corporate sector is assured, Street-Wise will withdraw and leave the programme to be run locally.

At Mabopane, short-term residential care is offered to children under the age of 16 years. Up to 20 children can be accommodated at a time. They attend local schools and out of school hours they do sport and are enrolled in skills and life-skills training, art and drama, health and sex education programmes and gardening. All case histories are documented

and arrangements are made for the children to spend weekends and school holidays with their families. Where necessary, groceries are provided to their families to enable them to afford their children's visits. Whenever possible, the children are reunited with their families. Only when this is impossible are placements sought with foster families or in children's homes.

4 CONCLUSION

For every caring person who unselfishly invests time and energy in the care of street children, there are hundreds more who reject the children aggressively or who exploit them in the pursuit of their own selfish ends.

Until all South Africans, regardless of race, creed or colour, accept street children as their own and take responsibility for them, the issue of street children in this country will not be effectively resolved. Acceptance will bring that sense of belonging that street children crave, and "this sense of belonging ... provides the foundation for the child's subsequent growth and development" (Allison in *The Child Care Worker* 7(9), p.4).

From concern to concrete action: The story of The Homestead

Annette Cockburn

The Homestead

1 FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF A PROGRAMME DEALING WITH STREET CHILDREN

The mission of The Homestead is to help street children reconstruct their lives which have been shattered by poverty, violence, rejection and family disintegration. The indigenous model for coping with street children developed by The Homestead makes provision for the delivery of a *range of services to meet the basic needs of a maximum number of children on and of the street.* Provision is made for children who are in *different phases of the "process of becoming" street children.*

It is important for any person who is interested in getting involved with the management of street children to be aware of the fact that the majority of street children have no sense of belonging and are estranged from their families and communities and society as a whole. Street children often express the feeling that nobody understands them or how they feel. In many ways they are adults who have to fend for themselves.

A major problem for those working with street children is that they confound the concept "child". Rehabilitation and resocialization programmes are geared towards the prevailing notions of childhood. Many scholars point out that the contemporary western concept of childhood (based in the narrow range of middle-class experience) is as powerful and pervasive in South Africa as it is in Europe and North America. These ideas are central organizing schema in daily talk about children, among professionals, care workers and in the media, and are hegemonic in the sense that they are normative and prescriptive: children are seen as innocent, dependent, passive and vulnerable. If this ideology informs our practice, which it invariably must do, we will attempt to infantilize street children by trying to give them back their "lost" childhood.

We as child care workers need to challenge these assumptions. I would like to say at the outset that it is of deep concern to me that in attempting to "mainstream" these children, we, the care givers, may do more damage by infantilizing them, blunting their survival skills and hijacking their consciousness in a process of resocialization. These type of rehabilitation efforts may leave street children worse off than before, in the process destroying their commendable survival instinct and sharpness and replacing it with a striving for middle-class values and lifestyles which, because of their lack of emotional, social and cognitive development, they may never be able to comply with.

Prof. David Donald and Jill Swart-Kruger in a chapter called "Children of the South African Streets", identify what they call "a central and pervasive paradox": On the one hand there is the developmental risk and vulnerability of street children concerning their physical, emotional, social and cognitive development, while on the other hand the children show resourcefulness, adaptability and coping skills (Dawes, A. & Donald, D. (ed) 1994. *Childhood and adversity: Psychological perspectives from South African Research*. Cape Town, David Philip). The "unpacking" of resilience and the identification of stressors which impact upon it, must, I believe, be a major focus for future research.

2 DIFFERENT STAGES OF INTERVENTION

Children become street children by stages, and I believe, as does Alan Jackson, Director of Child Welfare in Cape Town, that particular approaches are most appropriate at particular stages. The models of intervention must be developmental in terms of the *child's own development*, as well as his *development as a street child*, and also developmental in that intervention should not merely be custodial or even therapeutic, but also render the child effective and empowered.

In other words, *community-based preventative services* are most appropriate when the child starts to spend time in the streets around his home, occasionally truanting from school, and sometimes sleeping away from home. Areas of research which need to be addressed in communities of origin might include maternal age as a factor in children who become street children. In a paper delivered at the 1988 National

Association of Child Care Workers Conference on Street Children in Cape Town, Chris Giles referred to his study where he found that 72 % of the children in his sample had teenage mothers of whom 95 % were unmarried. Another trend perceived by our organization is that small pockets in certain areas often constitute high-risk communities: a single street, a particular block of flats. Whether this is due to peer pressure, lack of immediate support facilities, or other factors, is largely unknown.

3 THE HOMESTEAD

Ashley Theron, the then Deputy Director of Health Services and Welfare, speaking at The Homestead 1993 annual general meeting, said that he believed that The Homestead had become a model for intervention in the care, education and reintegration of street children. He said that The Homestead model was not only indigenous but effective and affordable. The Homestead, which was started in 1982 as an intake shelter for 16 boys, has grown organically into a multifaceted project which includes a street work component, a drop-in centre, the original intake shelter (now for 30 boys), a children's home for 40 boys, a non-formal education programme called "Learn to Live" which is run by the Salesians, and a new night shelter, The Bridge, the building of which should start in the following two weeks.

4 EVALUATION OF THE PROJECT

Since there is no "right" strategy for dealing with street children, evaluation research should form an integral part of project development. It is important to ensure that specific aims set for each intervention phase should be met and that specific standards are adhered to. Although we realized the importance of evaluation right at the beginning of the project we didn't quite know how we were going to evaluate. Means to develop scientific criteria and to keep carefully collected statistics have been generated as the project developed.

5 CONCLUSION

The Homestead has a simple mission: to help street children reconstruct their shattered lives. Although the mission is simple, the task is not.

However, I believe that an indigenous model for coping with street children is being evolved right here in South Africa, and also that it is being articulated. We engage constantly in the debate of "more for less" or "less for more" and tend to favour the latter. I believe that basic, unelaborated services are appropriate. I believe that we must develop a proliferation of simple services to meet the needs of children on and of the streets; and that these services must cater for the maximum number of children whom we would like to see return to their communities, able, in Freud's words, "to love and to work", children who, although they may not have had roots, have found wings.

Durban City Police Street Child Unit

Deputy Chief Constable L. McGregor-Stuart

Durban City Police

1 THE PROBLEM ITSELF

During 1988 it became very obvious that a serious street child problem was developing at Durban's beach front and in the central business district. Several hundred children, almost entirely black males between the ages of eight and seventeen, appeared to be permanently or semi-permanently on the streets, where their attempts to make a living were regarded at best as an unpleasant nuisance, and at worst as a frightening menace. Most of their activities were unlawful to some degree, ranging

- from petty offences such as begging; acting as unlicensed car parkers, frequently leading uninformed visitors to park illegally; unlicensed car washers, the cars ending up dirtier than before and perhaps scratched as well; and involvement in informal street trading where their contribution aggravated that particular problem;
- to more serious matters such as glue sniffing, fighting among themselves (often with bricks and knives), urinating, defecating and littering in public places, causing disturbances, and deliberately damaging vehicles belonging to persons who declined their offer of parking assistance or car washing;
- through to serious crime such as the use of drugs, theft, robbery, assault and prostitution.

The children's regular involvement in unlawful activities resulted in their very presence giving rise to apprehension and hostility, and demands that the police take decisive action involving at the very least the children's immediate removal from the scene. Attempts by the police to take the necessary preventative action and to respond adequately to repeated complaints from the public, at times inevitably verged on harassment.

This resulted in the street children seeing the police as their enemy. Consequently, genuine attempts by the police to intervene in the interest

of the children for example, when taking action against shop-owners who deliberately bottled glue and similar substances for the children to become addicted to, or against child molesters who attempted to draw them into prostitution, were hampered by distrust and disbelief.

2 DURBAN CITY POLICE

The Durban City Council became directly involved with the street child problem when it took the controversial step in November 1987 in facilitating the setting up of a shelter in Durnford Road within walking distance of both the beach front and the central business district. Protests from the local residents became vociferous as the presence of the shelter was repeatedly linked to an increase in crime in the area. Consequently the council deliberated on ways of balancing its involvement by taking active steps to help rectify the situation. As the Durban City Police was in the council's service, had accumulated experience through street patrols and had the legal power to carry out a police function in terms of the Child Care Act, it was decided to ask the chief constable to establish a specialized street child unit to literally "police" the problem.

3 BASIC APPROACHES TO THE PROBLEM

The problem could basically be dealt with in two ways:

- *The use of largely coercive official procedures,* involving action to take the children into custody and conveying them to a children's court (or temporarily, an official place of safety or a substitute), where a magistrate could institute an enquiry. This approach is not only costly to the state and hampered by an insufficient number of trained social workers, but has been widely criticized as being bureaucratic, impersonal and unfeeling, and as a result is frequently unsuccessful in rehabilitating the children who eventually return to the streets, become involved in more serious crimes, and are finally absorbed into the prison system.
- *The use of voluntary shelters* where consultation with the children and seeking their willing co-operation in the implementation of rehabilitation programmes are paramount. Admission being voluntary, only

minimal demands can be made or limitations imposed on their behaviour in return for food, accommodation and other benefits. This approach avoids the severe, prison-like restrictions felt to exist in government places of safety and which provoke resentment and instant resistance from children accustomed to the freedom of the streets.

It was hoped that this latter option would make residence as attractive as possible, and that the resultant regular exposure to the lifestyle of the establishment would render it more attractive than that of the street, and convert the child in a natural way to a frame of mind more conducive to accepting residence at a second-stage shelter where proper rehabilitation in conventional society could be pursued.

Unfortunately the unofficial nature of these shelters meant that they were not in a position to impose any discipline other than the withholding of rewards. Streetwise children also soon learnt that their threat of withdrawal carries much weight with often inexperienced and rather naïve voluntary workers. Moreover, since such shelters need to be in the areas frequented by the children, the shelters can serve as an added inducement to children to migrate to the city.

4 THE STREET CHILD UNIT

When the unit was set up in November 1988, facilities supporting the official approach were almost non-existent. There was, for example, no place of safety to accommodate black children in the Durban area other than an inadequate establishment in Umlazi, south of the city. The unofficial approach based on shelters had no legal standing; was totally inadequate; and was already becoming discredited as permissive, and as compounding the issue.

The purpose of the unit was thus to provide the city police with a means to assess and monitor the problem and to decide upon and then co-ordinate police action; and, in particular, to co-operate with the staff at the council-supported shelter in Durnford Road

- with the intention of increasing the chances of success of the voluntary approach by strengthening it with an official presence;

- by so doing, demonstrating to the rest of the community, which had been highly critical of the whole system, that a degree of control was being exercised;
- by having a unit of policemen who were personally known to the children, conveying a more familiar, friendly image to them;
- by observing the children at first hand, thus being in a position to identify those failing to respond to the voluntary approach, and having some idea why; and so differentiating between:
- those who were resistant to the approach, and were thereby undermining the system, and those who deserved a further chance before being taken before a court.

The sergeant and three constables (subsequently increased to five constables) who first staffed the unit were selected from personnel who had a genuine interest in the problems facing the children, and were therefore likely to develop a genuine empathy for them. For several months very little police action was taken against any children other than in the most serious cases, as the unit worked both to familiarize itself with the children and their problems and to get the children to appreciate the points of view of the rest of the community and the police themselves.

The establishment of an official place of safety in Durban (Bayhead) at a converted railway workers' hostel seemed to bode well for the achieving of one of the unit's main objectives, namely to help co-ordinate the official and unofficial approaches, both of which were seen as having a contribution to make. However, notwithstanding repeated consultation between senior city police officers and Natal Provincial Administration officials, the potential of Bayhead was never realized. Serious staff problems developed, the implementation of basic education for inmates was repeatedly delayed, and the absconding rate became phenomenal, with some children being re-admitted over 20 times by 1992 and a dozen abscondings and re-admissions per child being common.

In July 1989 the voluntary shelter at Durnford Road closed down after being seriously damaged by a fire started by a street child. A change of political orientation in the city council resulted in a refusal to authorize a replacement. Certain other organizations such as Street-Wise and the

Methodist Church set up their own shelters, but were severely hampered by finance, an inadequate staff complement, the inability to find premises in the centre of the city (partly as a result of public hostility to their presence), and poor co-operation throughout the field of endeavour.

The police are obviously required to operate in terms of the law, and the Child Care Act prescribes that a child may only be conveyed to an officially registered place of safety. With the failure of the most publicized voluntary shelter in the city, increasing pressure was placed on the police to make more use of the place of safety at Bayhead, which was quite unable to cope with the number of children already being taken directly there by the unit, and those being committed semi-permanently by the children's court.

Admission to the place of safety was granted for a variety of reasons, including the repeated disregard for warnings against begging, glue sniffing, car parking/washing, and fighting; the apparent loitering for the purposes of homosexual prostitution; and supposed residents of a shelter found wandering in the middle of the night. Children arrested for committing serious offences such as bag-snatching and house-breaking were normally detained in S.A.P.S. cells, as detention facilities for this purpose at Bayhead were minimal. The S.A.P.S. was heavily criticised for detaining children in the cells and as a result was extremely reluctant to accept juvenile City Police prisoners. The entire situation therefore continued to deteriorate.

During 1990 and 1991 the unit continued to struggle under worsening conditions. The situation deteriorated at Bayhead, and the Commissioner of Child Welfare who at first expressed strong support for the police case and made strenuous efforts to use his influence to stimulate a more positive response from the various government agencies, later expressed defeat and advised that the court could not continue to accept large numbers of new cases when there were too few social workers to process them, and no place to accommodate them.

During 1992 and 1993 the situation declined further, although the existence of the Street Child Unit did enable the police to weed out the worst offenders among the children, the child molesters who preyed on

them and the "Fagins" who sought to make use of them in organized crime.

Cases dealt with by the unit escalated:

1989: 716

1990: 1 289

1991: 1 728

1992: 4 447

The marked increase in 1992 reflected an enormous number of abscondings and re-admissions as the unit attempted to remove street children who were persistent offenders with regard to minor offences, and who were feared to be developing into hardened criminals. Such children merely absconded again, sometimes arriving on the beat before the arresting officer could finish his paperwork in this regard, the children only having to climb over the wall and hitch a lift.

Figures for 1993 show a marked drop to approximately 1991 levels as the place of safety now refuses to re-admit "persistent absconders" notwithstanding court orders or forms used by the police in terms of the Child Care Act, and simply turns them out onto the street. And the police themselves have discontinued pointless repeated attempts to detain children, where the only effect is to eventually arouse hostility to the police, which the unit attempted to overcome in the first place.

The growth in population and worsening economic and political situation make it inevitable that increasing numbers of children will gravitate to the streets of our cities, where the violent nature of our society, racial polarization and the emergence of AIDS (already identified in Durban's street child population) add frightening new dimensions.

The existence of the Street Child Unit in Durban has helped to contain the problem by:

- identifying the real criminals among the children;
- identifying the adults who exploit them;
- helping the official and voluntary social workers to rescue those children not yet lost to society; and

demonstrating to both the street children and the general public that in Durban the police are carefully monitoring the situation and taking action where possible; preventing vigilante action by exasperated residents; discouraging excesses of behaviour by street children; and, to a degree, making the city environment less attractive to children who may therefore seek an alternative lifestyle.

But the street child is not a police problem — it is a social welfare problem which the relevant authorities must address urgently before South Africa faces a problem of the magnitude now being experienced in South America.

South African Police policy concerning street children

Maj. (F.) J.D. Basson

South African Police Service

From the start it must be stated that legislation which provides for the safety, welfare and status of children is not administered by the South African Police Service. The role of the South African Police Service with regard to street children is *restricted to the investigation of crime or alleged crime* and the *prevention of crime*, whether it is committed *against* or *by* street children. In practice this means that police action against street children or the handling of street children must be *legally arranged*, otherwise it will be irregular and contrary to the individual's right to privacy, freedom and safety.

Until such time as the ideal legislation and agreements of co-operation between the different role players are being implemented and the problem concerning the handling of street children has been solved, the role of the South African Police Service will be restricted to the following:

- Organized "pick-up operations" and the handling of street children in co-operation with other community disciplines including, amongst others, social workers, commissioners of child care and places of safety. The application of Sections 11, 12 and 38 of the Child Care Act (Act No. 74 of 1983) is relevant in this respect.
- Goodwill actions which arrange for the children to be collected and served meals.
- Crime prevention actions in the form of patrols, visible policing, observation, briefing and giving advice to street children and their parents.
- Compulsory notice of arrest. In terms of Sections 50(4) and 50(5) of the Criminal Procedure Act (Act No. 51 of 1977) the South African Police Service is responsible for immediately notifying the parent or guardian of the arrest of a person under the age of 18 years. In addition to this, the regional liaison officer in whose area the juvenile has been arrested

is also notified. If a probation officer is unavailable, a correctional official is notified of the arrest.

The South African Police Service wishes to emphasize that no witch-hunt is carried out against street children. Children are only detained in police cells when a place of safety is unavailable and the crime for which the child has been arrested necessitates his detention in a police cell. All other detentions in police cells, whether in terms of the Child Care Act (Act No. 74 of 1983) or the Criminal Procedure Act (Act No. 51 of 1977), take place on the instruction and at the discretion of the court. Similarly, the application of legislation which arranges alternatives to detention, the diversion of procedures and alternative sentences rests with the court.

It appears from research that, on the one hand, the existing legislation (certain legislation has not yet been implemented) and procedures which determine the handling of street children are directed at the symptoms rather than the causes of the problem and, on the other hand, that street children cannot be dealt with in terms of procedures which are valid for children in need of care and juvenile offenders. However, the handling and upliftment of street children can never take place without a certain degree of regulation.

The street child does, in fact, differ from the child in need of care because his needs and personal circumstances differ. His entire outlook on life is based on survival. The problem is further compounded because most street children refuse to be subjected to upliftment programmes within the context of an institution.

The South African Police Service is of the opinion that the street child problem cannot be meaningfully dealt with by policing or by correctional measures. The solution to the problem rests with the community itself. In view of the above, the South African Police Service supports any lawful upliftment work and educational programmes for black street children in particular.

The Department of Welfare must however accept full responsibility for street children and co-ordinate all programmes by the state, the community and private initiatives. Upliftment programmes fall outside the work area of the South African Police Service. The South African Police Service can however play a supportive role by, within the

framework of the functions, powers and duties imposed on it by law, referring street children to the responsible institutions.

Summary of Group Discussions

The focal point of the working conference was the small group discussions which formed an integral part of the conference proceedings. A summary of the ten topics for discussion as written up in *Street children: A working document* (Schurink *et al.* 1993) was presented to each of the ten groups as a basis for discussion. Each of the groups was also encouraged to come up with a conference resolution concerning their specific topic.

- **The needs and rights of street children**

The discussion group agreed that during the past decade there has been a growing global appreciation of the importance of meeting children's physical, mental and emotional needs and that children's basic needs should be given the highest priority in the allocation of resources in bad as well as good times. This new awareness implies the acceptance of the principle of a *first call for children* at a macro (national), meso (community) and micro (individual) level.

The members of the discussion group presented a list of needs that emanated from their brainstorming. They stressed that, as in Maslow's human needs typology, *survival needs* are the most important to the children, followed by *protection needs* and *developmental needs*. All agreed that street children are not merely children in need of care but that they have *special needs* that have to be specifically catered for.

From the children's point of view the overriding needs are for food, drugs and shelter. Only after their most basic survival needs have been met will they have a need for *development* such as literacy training. The children also have spiritual needs and thus have a right to pastoral care. They need to belong and thus to be connected to their biological families and to be accepted by them. Individual needs are important. For example, the needs of children who still have some family connections, albeit inadequate and sporadic, will differ from those of children who no longer have any contact with their families. Any child needs to be a child and to go through age appropriate behaviour in order to enter adulthood successfully.

From these needs the rights of street children were inferred. The group was adamant that although street children have rights like all other children, no right comes without *responsibility*. Street children have the right to be heard, the right to be loved and the right to have their needs met. Street children, like all other children, have a right to expect adults to be responsible leaders and to guide them on their path to adulthood.

It is the duty of the state to ensure that every child is born into an acceptable quality of life and a caring, supportive environment. If not, children have the right to effective intervention such as income support. However, the group members stated that inappropriate intervention could be more damaging than no intervention at all. Proper *needs assessment* should therefore be undertaken before any intervention is made in the lives of street children. Any organization or volunteer should be made *accountable* for their intervention into the lives of street children and/or those of their families.

Street children have the right to information in order to protect themselves from diseases such as AIDS. Furthermore, because a large number of them survive by means of prostitution, some group members even argued that boys have the right to be supplied with condoms.

- **Co-ordination of services rendered to street children at a local, regional and national level**

In order to avoid a top-down approach, co-ordination needs to occur at a local or regional level rather than at a national level. Local co-ordination should include the dissemination of information, community education and the raising of awareness. We need to empower communities and educate them to look at possibilities for prevention. Networking between agencies dealing with street children should be encouraged. The partnership approach should be followed whereby the state should have a national responsibility for co-ordination in partnership with NGOs. The group members believed that the state has the responsibility for maximizing the participation of NGOs in intervention (welfare) programmes for street children, but that the initiative for services should arise from the local level.

Specific standards for street child intervention programmes need to be established by means of regulations and legislation. A national, regional and local monitoring system as well as policy to ensure *adequate standards* are needed. The group stated that services are currently fragmented and that we need to work holistically with street children. Services have to date been ineffective, so we need to look at ways of restructuring them and working with street children in a more co-ordinated and effective way.

Families and communities should be involved in this approach together with state departments, NGOs and CBOs. The group members contended that local co-ordination should include determining the nature of the information and the community education — such as community awareness and networking, particularly inter-agency networking. Families and communities should have access to *equal resources* before they could be empowered. Communities of origin need to be made aware of the problem of street children in their own neighbourhood. They need to be educated and made aware of their responsibility to provide opportunities (e.g. income-generating projects) to the children and their families.

Services to street children should not alienate them from their communities and families of origin. Service providers must be well acquainted with the culture of the children. Programme staff should receive *regular in-house training*. Street children should be included in decisions made on their behalf at a regional and local level and the strengths of the street culture should be recognized and incorporated into intervention programmes. We need to recognize what street children's strengths are and utilize these strengths. The concept of peer education, where street children who have successfully completed a programme are used to educate other street children, should be broadened. There must be a national, regional and local monitoring system for issues related to children in difficult circumstances, such as street children and working children.

- **Reviewing policy guidelines and legislation regarding street children**

The group members emphasized the fact that the base line for adequate policy and legislation is the acknowledgement that street children are *not only children in need of care but also children with special needs* and therefore they require special programmes. Current legislation is inadequate to address the street child problem. For example, legislation does not make provision for the registration of shelters; and "street child" is not defined and terms such as "drop-in centre", "outreach programmes", "place of care" etc. are unclear. However, apart from these obvious weaknesses in the present legislation, there are major difficulties in designing adequate policy and legislation in South Africa.

The *pervasive fragmentation of services,* e.g. 14 different departments involved with serving the street child and each department having its own policy and interpretation of policy and current legislation, was regarded as a major stumbling block. The existence of several homelands which have their own policies and legislation caused further fragmentation. Channels to effectively deal with street children who live on South African streets but who originated from areas known as homelands, are also lacking.

The group also stated that there was resistance to the registration of NGOs and services that received money from institutions overseas. Some of these NGOs feared that registering with a state department would result in their losing international funding or their independent status, or even their becoming obsolete.

A need for legislation to ensure that street child programmes adhere to *minimum standards* and the need for trained staff were expressed. Because the children's needs should determine the treatment, *proper assessment* of all children in distress is important. Legislation should require the registration of all places of care in order to build in certain controls. Outreach programmes could be funded as service programmes, and residential facilities as children's homes.

At a primary prevention level it was mentioned that *communities lacked resources* to ensure that their children are well cared for. For example, some street children could have stayed with their parents if they had received some form of financial assistance. Foster care grants are insufficient. Consequently children are filling places of safety, making

them and their families a burden to the state. The lack of facilities for street children was seen as a further stumbling block in the formulation and implementation of adequate policy and legislation.

The group welcomed the fact that an *interdepartmental working committee for street children* had been established and felt that the conference recommendations should be forwarded to this group for deliberation and further solutions. This group also recommended that the HSRC should link up with the relevant work done at the University of the Western Cape and that these two organizations should have better liaison with each another.

The importance of the *home and community of origin of a street child* as well as the incorporation of these aspects into policy and legislation were stressed. Moreover, a definition of "street child" as well as of the different phases of street child programmes should be included in the legislation; better subsidy for alternative care in a nuclear family should be considered as a policy aspect; and foster care policy and grants should be reviewed.

The group members recommended that the functions of a place of safety should be urgently investigated. The committee on street children should take these recommendations forward, publicly call for submissions and then report back to service providers working in the field and to the general public. This group strongly felt that the National Social Health and Development Forum should receive their recommendations.

The group also stated that they supported the moratorium on legislation to ensure grassroots participation in all future policy formulation. Amendments to legislation should be in the form of a package and amendments concerning street children should be holistic and comprehensive. The group members asked that the departments involved with the enforcement of the legislation be more flexible in their interpretation and implementation of current legislation until a new government was instituted.

- **Partnership between the private and public sectors concerning street children**

For the purposes of this topic the discussion group regarded the private sector as formal and non-formal welfare agencies, while the public sector was seen to be the state. The respective functions of the public and the private sector were listed. At a national level the public sector was seen to be inter alia responsible for: (i) providing appropriate facilities such as children's homes and places of safety; (ii) developing appropriate legislation and policy formulation; (iii) campaigning nationally to raise awareness of the plight of street children; (iv) producing strategies for co-ordination between the state and private organizations; (v) facilitating the co-ordination of services at regional level; (vi) providing funding for private interventions and supportive auxiliary services such as non-formal education; and (vii) developing services in areas where they are non-existent.

The state thus has to operate at a *macro level* in the area of policy formulation, funding, overall co-ordination and monitoring. At a *meso level* the state has to facilitate (and not set up or dictate) regional co-ordination between the private and the public sector. At the *micro level* the public sector should fund private interventions.

The contention was that private sector responsibility does not primarily pertain to the macro level, but rather to the meso and micro level. The main function of private organizations is to render *direct services to street children*. Engaging in community development projects, especially in those communities from which the street children came and with which they would be reintegrated, was regarded as a priority.

The group stressed that, because of a *bottom-up approach* to policy formulation, it was becoming more important for service organizations to become involved by way of regular feedback to the macro level (state departments) on policy implementation and the problems and the needs experienced in rendering direct services to street children.

- **Outreach programmes and the role of the outreach worker**

The working document viewpoint was generally accepted, namely that *outreach workers* (street educators) could play a very important role in South African programmes aimed at street children. Their most important

task is to reach out to the street children where they are and to empower them through the necessary literacy and communication skills to express their rights and needs. The street outreach worker's basic roles include being present on the street and establishing contact which must lead to some action with regard to individuals or groups of street children. Some important aspects concerning street outreach workers were discussed.

Firstly, the selection of street workers and whether to appoint full-time or part-time workers were considered. The discussion group agreed that the appointment of full-time as well as volunteer workers had advantages and disadvantages. On the whole the group felt that relevant experience, commitment as well as effectively relating to street children were important characteristics in an outreach worker. Another requirement was that an outreach worker should be available at the times that street children are on the streets (7:00-23:00). The appointment of shift workers was also considered.

Secondly, the question of personnel training was considered. The group members felt that training was of the utmost importance. More training facilities for child care workers should be established and training provided by the National Association of Child Care Workers (NACCW) should be extended and decentralized. The need was expressed for a training manual providing guidelines on how to start street child projects.[2]

Preparation for the development of a street child outreach programme should include networking and the establishment of a *list of resources* in the community. Existing structures should be used as far as possible and new structures should thus only be developed if nothing exists. The development of a *data base* was regarded as vital because of the need to keep a record of the street children involved in a particular programme, so as to monitor their progress. Record keeping involves a trusting relationship between the children and the outreach worker. After all, street children are known to provide the wrong information to adults whom they distrust.

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2 It was pointed out to delegates that a manual on the development of street child projects could be ordered from Pam Jackson of *Ons Plek*.

The group members also discussed the possibility that a street promoter or educator could also be a *street child who "graduated"* from a project. This child could then act as a sort of "big brother" to other children. Lastly, the discussion group felt that the programme staff of the different street child projects could learn a lot from one another.

Assessment of street children

The discussion group agreed that the *basic needs of street children* are food, clothing and safer shelter, and that this is where a programme or service should start. Most children also seem to need medical attention for septic wounds, cuts, flu, infections and less serious illnesses and injuries. A programme therefore needs to have sanitary and some medical facilities. The children should also have someone to talk to if they have such a need, and some form of recreation would help provide a relaxed atmosphere.

A soup kitchen or a *drop-in centre* in various parts of a city would be ideal for this type of programme/service. These drop-in centres could accommodate referred children as well as other children who wished to come for a meal, a shower and other basic needs. Existing community structures such as church halls and community centres could be used to run these facilities.

In order for programme staff to make decisions in the *best interest of the child* some information is necessary. Although most children are hardly stable during the first few days after contact with a programme, the people helping the children should try and observe their social and interpersonal functioning in order to know what behaviour to expect from the children and how to deal with it. Most of the present assessment techniques are aimed at children in need of care in general and not at street children as such. The following assessment issues were emphasized:

- The vulnerability of a child, i.e. his/her age and gender;
- A child's state of health;
- A child's reasons for being on the street and his/her background;
- Existing community resources including those of a child's community of origin;

- Length of time on the street or phase of street life that a child is in and whether he/she still has contact with his/her parents and community of origin;
- Ability to concentrate;
- Level of trust between programme staff or outreach worker and a child;
- Use of drugs and ability to do without it;
- A child's request for help and readiness to stick to a programmea high IQ and a wish to go to school do not guarantee that a child will accept the school environment for long;
- A child's consistency (e.g. child comes home/to the shelter regularly, sleeps in regularly and keeps track of his/her belongings) will give some indication of his/her readiness for a specific programme;
- Readiness of a child to accept responsibility and accountability for his/her actions;
- Educational level, previous schooling experience and standard passed;
- Adaptation to the school environment (where applicable);
- Assessment should not be too intense in case it scares a child away.

- **Preparing street children for the employment market through education and training**

Although formal education is preferable, the group members agreed that not all street children are able to attend a formal school. Furthermore, not all street children can cope with or become reintegrated into the formal education system. Informal education is an alternative for such children.

Some street children dropped out of school before they left their homes in preference of the streets. These children may have dropped out of school due to learning disabilities, emotional problems or difficult circumstances at home. Most of the street children are about three to four years behind in their school standard when they start with a programme, which makes them dependent on remedial education.

Non-formal education programmes should offer a readiness/remedial programme, vocational training, a link to small business, functional literacy and numeracy, life skills training which includes subjects such as sex education and first aid and participatory skills such as decision-making, goal-setting and problem-solving. Training must be co-ordinated with business, be practical and include some kind of apprenticeship. Co-ordination with all stakeholders, including trade unions, is vital.

The group members recommended that street children should be assessed on arrival. This assessment should indicate the type of skills each child needs and this should be included in the intervention programme. Intervention should be planned together with the individual child. Furthermore, assessment or reassessment should be continuous in order to evaluate the child's progress within a programme. The group strongly felt that street children should be *furnished with marketable skills.*

According to the discussion group the education system should adapt to the needs of *at-risk children* wherever possible, and teachers should be trained to deal with *potential drop-outs* who may become street children. The school system should be changed to include educational as well as vocational training. Education should be compulsory up to sixteen years and the Panel for Identification, Diagnosis and Assistance (PIDA) system must be broadened. School children with learning difficulties and behavioural problems should be identified at an early stage in order to prevent them from turning to the streets.

Auxiliary social workers and volunteers must be utilized to a greater extent in street child projects and the training of street children.

- **The aftercare of street children**

The discussion group contended that aftercare has to form an integral part of any service rendered to street children because it reinforces the services already rendered. Aftercare is also multifaceted, including intervention in the child's life and rendering services to his/her family. Aftercare should thus, whenever possible, be geared at the provision of some kind of supportive service that would enable the family and the community to reintegrate the child and prevent him/her from running away again.

The group members were of the opinion that community members should be made aware of the aftercare needs of street children and of their responsibility in this regard. Community members should thus become part of the whole process of providing care and aftercare for street children. Furthermore, intervention in the street child's life has to be goal directed. Special attention should also be given to the aftercare of children who are too old (nineteen years) for a programme.

- **Community awareness and participation, including prevention strategies**

The group stated the importance of identifying the problems, the causes and the needs per community and of being specific in this identification before any kind of prevention strategy or programme could be initiated. In order to create community awareness with the aim of achieving community commitment and involvement, anything relating to prevention has to become part of community life. If prevention particularly primary prevention is regarded as something in isolation of the community, community support will be absent. In order to develop meaningful projects, volunteers are needed who are acquainted with the resources, services and programmes as well as the specific problems within a particular community.

It was stressed that although there may be a number of different resources in the communities, co-ordination is lacking. Programmes should amalgamate in order to be meaningful and effective.

It was also emphasized that community readiness for and commitment to solving the street child problem should be ensured. Community awareness is not enough. Community members must become actively involved in addressing the problem. If these requirements are not met, a particular prevention programme would be of little or no avail. Programme initiators should therefore be very sensitive to a community's level of acceptance of the street child problem in order to know when to launch a programme.

The implementation of policy guidelines and a strategy for solving the street child problem should be a national, regional and local endeavour. The discussion group noted the following examples of prevention

programmes: life skills training, parenting courses, parent-child communication programmes at schools and tertiary institutions, and reintegration programmes. School social workers can play a very important role in terms of a street child's reintegration with the school system and the family.

The lack of recreational facilities in the children's communities was identified as a problem because the children turned to urban areas in order to seek entertainment. Income-generating projects in a community could be based on providing recreation facilities, and children could assist in such an endeavour.

In summary, the discussion group identified family development, community organization and development, multisectoral approaches and community participation as the most important aspects of prevention programmes.

Conference Resolutions

The following *resolutions* were passed by the conference participants:

- The *basic needs of all children (including street children) should be accorded the highest priority in the allocation of South Africa's resources.*
- The *needs and circumstances of children* and especially children in difficult circumstances such as street children should be *monitored at the local, regional and national level.*
- *At-risk families should receive special assistance* (e.g. work opportunities in public work programmes, the provision of food, health care, maintenance grants, pre-school education programmes and parent training).
- The *rights of children should be protected and upheld* and the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* should be ratified by the Government of National Unity.
- The two schools of thought regarding the management of street children, namely formal versus informal management, should be acknowledged. Therefore street children should be responded to as *children in need of care* but, because of their unique circumstances and characteristics, they have *special needs* regarding survival, development and protection that require an informal, unconventional, non-institutional approach. This approach should be aimed at *weaning* children *of* the street away from street life and *identifying potential street children at an early* stage.
- The services provided to street children should not alienate them from their roots but *reintegrate them with their culture, their community and their family of origin.*
- The *strengths of the street culture should be recognized and incorporated into programmes, and street children should be included in the process of developing services for them* at a regional and local level.

- There is an *urgent need to amend the Child Care Act*, especially in order to prevent prisons from being used as places of safety and to make provision for the registration of shelters for street children. However, because of our developing democracy, the authorities should refrain from forcing legislation on people and instead start developing effective, legitimate policy guidelines and legislation by means of a *broad process of consultation between all stakeholders involved with street children* (such as state departments, law enforcers, provincial administrations and community-based service organizations).
- The *proceedings of the working conference should be widely publicized* in order to involve stakeholders who are not yet part of the process with a view to furthering the process of consultation.
- A plea should be made to state departments and law enforcers *to be more flexible in their application of the law* in the interim period. The Department of National Health and Population Development (presently the Department of Welfare), for instance, was asked to be more flexible regarding the registration and subsidization of shelters. Outreach programmes could be funded as service programmes, and residential facilities as children's homes.
- Because of a bottom-up approach, a *mechanism* should be instituted that will make provision for *regular local and regional feedback* to a national body on the implementation of policy and the problems and the needs experienced by community organizations rendering direct services to street children.
- Fragmented services should be *co-ordinated at a local, regional and national level.*
- The *duplication of services* should be prevented and the minimal resources at our disposal should be used to maximum effect.
- In respect of the partnership agreement between the state and community services and organizations, it should be accepted that the *state has a national responsibility for co-ordination in partnership with NGOs*. In other words, the state has the responsibility for liaison with

NGOs and CBOs but the initiative for services must come from the grassroots level.

- National, regional and local criteria for the *evaluation of street child programmes and shelters* should be instituted in order to ensure adequate standards.
- The *support needed by at-risk families should be investigated* so as to determine what type of support is necessary for the adequate and equal distribution of resources in order to ensure that children of at-risk and disadvantaged families are well cared for and do not become a burden to the state.
- Local co-ordination should include the *dissemination of information, raising of community awareness* and *inter-agency networking*.
- Welfare systems should be geared to address *development and the equal distribution of resources*. Professionals (e.g. social workers) therefore have to become more relevant and development-orientated, and *ongoing in-service training and refresher courses* should be available for professionals.
- School social workers have a very important role in terms of *prevention* by strengthening families and communities, reintegrating street children into the school system as well as with their families and communities.
- Proper *needs assessment* should be undertaken before any intervention is made into the lives of street children and/or their families. Professionals and volunteers should also be made *accountable* for their intervention efforts.
- In order to address the street child problem effectively, a *holistic multi-professional approach* is required.
- There has been a tremendous upsurge in research on street children over the past few years, but very little of it has focused on the outcome of programmes. In order to determine the success or failure of a programme, facilitators should be trained to undertake *regular and systematic reviews of the process and outcome of individual programmes*.

- The conference participants welcomed the recommendation of the establishment of the Interdepartmental Committee on Street Children and felt that *the recommendations of the working conference had to be forwarded* to this committee and to the National Social Welfare Development Forum for deliberation and finding further solutions.

Ensuing Action

At the time when the working conference took place the Interdepartmental Working Committee: Street Children was functioning as a working committee of the ICC Subcommittee: Child and Family Care, and included representatives from relevant state departments, previous self-governing states and TBVC countries.

The main aim of this committee is to *facilitate co-ordination of services* to street children and potential street children and their families, and to develop more effective (including cost-effective) strategies to deal with children on and of the street. After the working conference in November 1993, and as a direct result of the recommendation that a *communication structure* should be developed that will make provision for *the co-ordination of services and the communication of policy guidelines* from a national to a regional and local level as well as to provide a *channel for regular local and regional feedback* to a national body on the implementation of policy and the problems and needs of community organizations rendering direct services to street children, liaison committees were established in the nine different provinces.[3]

These newly established regional liaison committees already started to organize forums to undertake networking and research involving local authorities, existing street child committees, welfare organizations, community-based services, state departments, and other role players involved with or concerned about street children in their area, such as businesses and universities. Since the working conference the Interdepartmental Working Committee: Street Children has endeavoured to *implement the most critical recommendations* of the working conference (i.e. the recommendations pertaining to the registration and subsidization of shelters).

The Human Sciences Research Council plans to arrange a follow-up working conference in co-operation with the Department of Welfare together with role players involved with street children in South Africa. The main aims of the working conference will be to *evaluate developments* that took place since the last working conference and to formulate *national policy and to define strategy* for dealing with street children.

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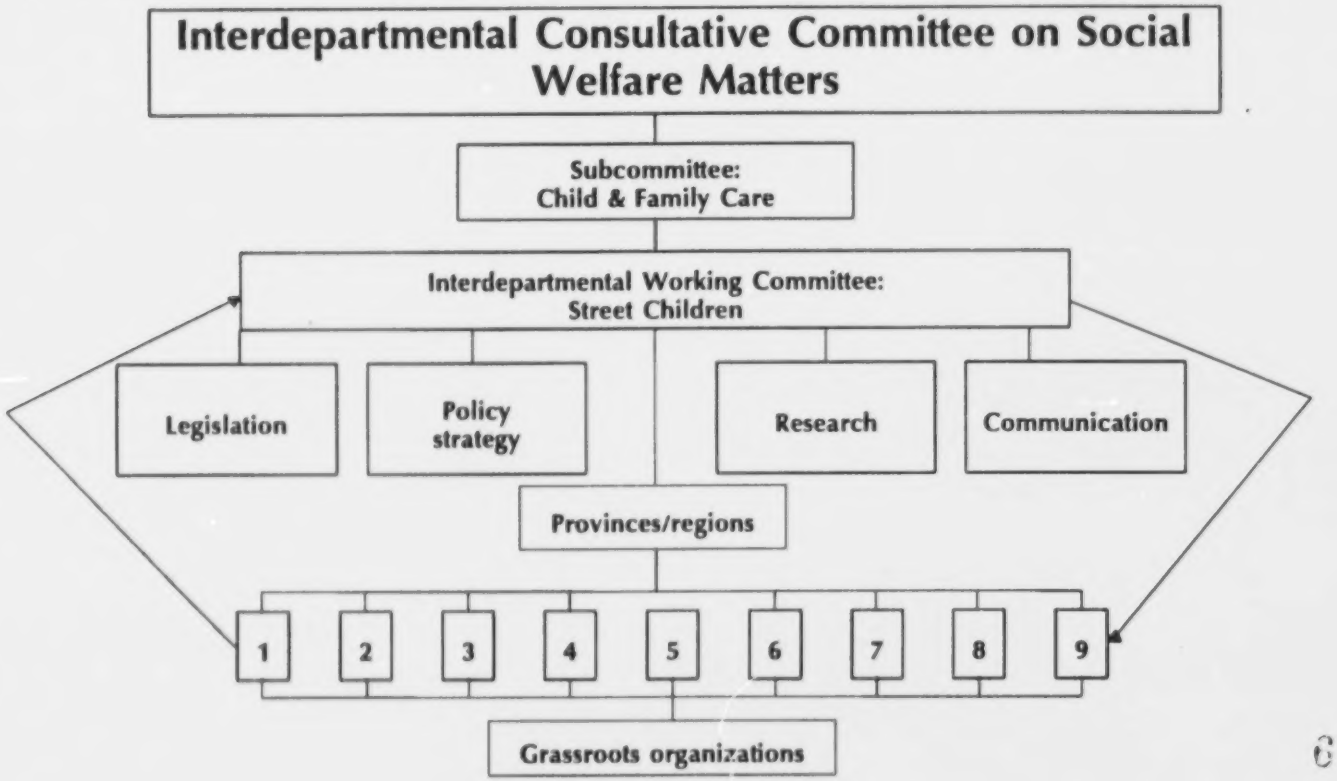
3 See accompanying diagram.

DIAGRAM

Structure for communication and co-ordination of street child services between the provincial/regional and national levels

(Editors' note: Please note that owing to the imminent restructing of the Civil Service the structure reflected below is likely to change).



Appendix A

Network directory of organisations and individuals
involved with and interested in the
street child phenomenon

Abalindi Welfare Society
Clelmford Centre 107
Clemsford Road
DURBAN
4001

S.G. **Abrahams**
32 Muller Street
YEOVILLE
2198

Action Isiah 58 Mission
2A Harburn Rd
Abbotsford
EAST LONDON
5200

Akanani Rural Development Assoc
P.O. Box 43
ELIM HOSPITAL
0960

Ms Gillian **Alexander**
24 Geldenhuys Street
REITZPARK
9459

Alexandra Street Children Project
144 Mimosa Road
NORTHCLIFF
2195

All For Jesus
206A Eloff Street Ext.
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Alpha Community Projects
P.O. Box 46
HANOVER PARK
7782

Bayview Residents Association
P.O. Box 45060
CHATSGLEN
4012

Beth Hatikva
P.O. Box 335
SALT RIVER
7925

Beth Uriel
P.O. Box 335
SALT RIVER
7925

Nokwe Themba Biyela
P.O. Box 7229
EMPANGENI
3910

Black Lawyers Association
P.O. Box 8780
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Mr Sakkie **Blanche**
Department of Welfare PWV
Private Bag X61
MARCHALLTOWN
2107

Boys' Town SA/Seunsdorp SA
P.O. Box 1844
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Boys' Town/Proscess
P.O. Box 23007
JOUBERT PARK
1044

Brooklyn East Circuit Methodist Church
P.O. Box 95158
WATERKLOOF 0145

CALUSA (Cala Children's Programme)
P.O. Box 29
CALA
5455

Cape Provincial Administration
Private Bag X9117
CAPE TOWN
8000

Cape Town City Mission
P.O. Box 38236
CAPE TOWN
8000

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Cape Town Child Welfare
P.O. Box 18008
WYNBERG
7900

Catholic Educational Aid Programme
23 Birdwood Road
ATHLONE
7764

Mrs M.M. **Chueu**
P.O. Box 3695
PIETERSBURG
0700

Child and Family Care
P.O. Box 18008
WYNBERG
7824

Child Welfare Society
13 Electric Road
WYNBERG SA
7700

Child Welfare Society
Claremont Children's Shelter
1 Fir Street
7700 CLAREMONT

Mkhosi **Cebekhulu**
P.O. Box 7337
3910 EMPANGENI

Children and Violence in SA
P.O. Box 229
7700 WITS

Children Movement
1324 Kwalanga Avenue
6233 UITENHAGE

Children's Resource Centre - Salt River
41 Salt River Road
7925 SALT RIVER

Children's Rights Commission
P.O. Box 48670
Qualbert
DURBAN
4078

Children's Rights Ministry
P.O. Box 23375
ISIPINGO
4110

Children's Rights Ministry
P.O. Box 72107
MOBENI
DURBAN
4092

Children Rights Ministry
130 Field Street
DURBAN
4078

Christelike Lig
P.O. Box 52855
Fouriesrus
PRETORIA NORTH
0024

City Council Atteridgeville
P.O. Box 90
ATTERIDGEVILLE
0008

City Health Library
P.O. Box 1477
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Community Care Centre
P.O. Box 497
PIETERMARITZBURG
3200

Community Health Services
Dept of Nat. Health & Pop.
Development
Private Bag X828
PRETORIA 0001

Community Law Centre
P.O. Box 1240
ENJOANGENI SA
3880

Concerned Social Workers
P.O. Box 301
WITS
2050

Mev. **Lesley Corrie**
Posbus 434
UPINGTON
8800

Brian **Court**
17 Rosmead Road
Vincent
EAST LONDON
5247

Cradock Street Children Project
UWC Institute for Social
Development
Private Bag X17
BELLVILLE
7535

Crisis Care
P.O. Box 56366
CHATSWORTH
4030

Mnr. T. **Crause**
Privaatsak X1256
POTCHEFSTROOM
2520

Mnr. J. **Cronjé**
Posbus 30404
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0132

Daily Bread Mission Trust
P.O. Box 3124
EAST LONDON
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Daily Bread Missions
Charitable Trust
P.O. Box 3124
5247 EAST LONDON

Mr S.F. **de Beer**
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Unikopwoonstel 206
Adcockstraat
GEZINA
0084

Me. Esté **de Klerk**
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VRYBURG
8600

Mev. C.E. **Dempers**
Privaatsak X730
PRETORIA
0001

Mej. D. **de Villiers**
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Kelnerstraat
Westdene
9300 BLOEMFONTEIN

Departement Finansies
Departement Welsyn
Privaatsak X828
0001 PRETORIA

Departement Korrektiewe Dienste
Privaatsak X136
PRETORIA
0001

Departement Korrektiewe Dienste
Afdeling: Korrektiewe Dienste
P/a Die Hoof
Privaatsak X136
0001 PRETORIA

Genl. Maj. E.C. van Zyl
AK: Ondersteuningsdienste
Departement Korrektiewe Dienste
Privaatsak X136
0001 PRETORIA

Departement Korrektiewe Dienste
Privaatsak X136
PRETORIA
0001

Departement Straf- en Prosesreg
Universiteit van Suid-Afrika
Posbus 392
0001 PRETORIA

Departement van Welsyn
en Bevolkingsontwikkeling
Privaatsak X828
0001 PRETORIA

Department of Health and Welfare
Kwandebele
Private Bag X4022
KWA MHLANGA
1022

Department of Health and Welfare
Lebowa
Private Bag X04
CHUENESPOORT
0745

Department of Health Services and Welfare
Administration: House of Delegates
Private Bag X54330
DURBAN
4000

Department of Health and Welfare
KanGgwane
Private Bag X1007
LOUWS CREEK
1302

Department of Health and Welfare
Gazankulu
Private Bag 1415
LETABA
0870

Department of Welfare
Administration: House of
Representatives
Private Bag X9112
8000 CAPE TOWN

Department of Welfare
Administration: House of
Assembly
Private Bag X730
PRETORIA 0001

Department of Welfare and Pensions
Private Bag X6000
UMTATA

Department of Welfare and Pensions
KwaZulu
Private Bag X27
3838 ULUNDI

Dept of Health and Welfare
KwaNdebele
P.O. Box 244
1030 DENNILTON

Dept of Health & Welfare
Private Bag X5009
THOHOYANDOU
VENDA

Dept of Welfare
Private Bag X828
0001 PRETORIA

Dept of NPA
Private Bag X54322
4000 DURBAN

Dept of Welfare & Pensions
Private Bag X6000
UMTATA
5100

Dept of Welfare & Pensions
Private Bag X1004
LUSIKISIKI
4820

Dept of Health & Social Services
Private Bag 2068
MMABATHO
8681

Dept of Health & Welfare
Qwa Qwa
Private Bag X824
9870 WITSIESHOEK

Dept of Welfare & Pensions
Private Bag X1004
LUSIKISIKI
4820

Dept of Welfare & Pensions
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LUSIKISIKI
4820

Dept van Nasionale Gesondheid en Bevolkingsontwikkeling
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0001 PRETORIA

Dept Welsyn
Privaatsak X891
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Don Bosco Hostel
Salesian Institute
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Mnr. Louis **du Plessis**
Heimat Dorpskoshuis
PU vir CHO
POTCHEFSTROOM
2520

Durban African Child & Family Welfare Society
P.O. Box 47470
4023 GREYVILLE

Dr. **Du Toit**
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7600 STELLENBOSCH

East London Street Child Project
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Southernwood
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Edendale Hospital
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PIETERMARITZBURG
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Eigel's Home
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WORCESTER
6850

Emdeni Children Home
Private Bag X4
KwaXuma - SOWETO
1868

Empangeni Christian Centre
P.O. Box 2120
EMPANGENI
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Erongo Pro-Child Initiative Project
P.O. Box 1458
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Ethokomala School of Industry
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Family Institute
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Homestead Intake Shelter
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CAPE TOWN
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N 196 Mbekweni Township
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7626 PAARL

Ilitha Labantu
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WOODSTOCK
7915

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Imfundo Rural Education Project
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Goeie Hoop
Oos-Kaap
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6000 PORT ELIZABETH

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P. O. Box 15001
1518 FARRARMERE

Khayamnandi
P.O. Box 97
7430 PINELANDS

Khulisa Management Services
P.O. Box 26992
7800 HOUT BAY

Kimberley Street Children Project
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8300 KIMBERLEY

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2520 POTCHEFSTROOM

Kinder- en Gesinsorg
Posbus 1006
2620 ORKNEY

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Privaatsak X2021
1740 KRUGERSDORP

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Privaatsak X07
1900 VANDERBIJLPARK

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Posbus 11
2114 NEWVILLE

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Privaatsak X6006
6000 PORT ELIZABETH

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Privaatsak X20525
9300 BLOEMFONTEIN

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Privaatsak
1400 GERMISTON

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Privaatsak X9037
5200 OOS-LONDEN

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
Privaatsak X689
0001 PRETORIA

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
Privaatsak
4240 PORT SHEPSTONE

Kinderbeskermingseenheid
SA Polisie Diens
P/a Die Eenheidsbevelvoerder
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